

Remarks/Arguments

Entry of the foregoing amendments, prior to examination, is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 is amended to correct a clerical error. Claims 18 and 20 are canceled. After entry of these amendments, claims 1-17 and 19 are pending.

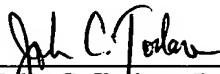
The specification is amended pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.71(g), to refer to a Joint Research Agreement.

An abstract is submitted.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By


John C. Todaro, Reg. No. 36,036
Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., Inc.
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, New Jersey 07065
Tel.: (732) 594-0125

Date: June 14, 2006